

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-02 ISO-00 (ISO) R

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DRAFTED BY: L/OA:MBWEST

APPROVED BY: L/OA:MBWEST

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P 182137Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 1013 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERN
DUBLIN HELSINKI MADRID SAIGON STOCKHOLM VALLETTA VIENNA
JEC DEL PARIS USUN FEBRUARY 18TH

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1013

DEPT PASS ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, ICRC

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR

REF: STATE 27026

1. SUMMARY: WEO CONSULTATIONS FEB 18 AND STATEMENTS IN MEETING
OF ALL HEADS OF DELEGATION PRESENTLY IN GENEVA SHOW
THAT AFRICAN AND ARAB NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WILL
ALMOST CERTAINLY BE INVITED TO CONFERENCE AS OBSERVERS,
NOT, RPT, NOT, AS VOTING PARTICIPANTS, AND THAT CHANCES
FOR DEFEATING INVITATION TO PRG AS FULL PARTICIPANT ARE
QUITE SLIM. WESTERN EUROPEANS, IN PARTICULAR, ARE
RELUCTANT TO SPEAK ON PRG ISSUE AND ARE TENDING TO
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ABSTENTION, RATHER THAN NEGATIVE VOTE. ACTION

REQUESTED: DEMARCHES IN SELECTED WE CAPITALS TO SUPPORT
OUR EFFORTS WITH DELS HERE. END SUMMARY.

2. AT WEO CONSULTATIONS FEB 18 WE DISCOVERED GENERAL CONSENSUS
TO VOTE AGAINST ANY ATTEMPTS TO ADMIT AFRICAN AND ARAB
NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS FULL PARTICIPANTS WITH RIGHT
TO VOTE BUT TO ABSTAIN ON PROPOSALS TO INVITE THEM AS
OBSERVERS. CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION WAS ALSO EXPRESSED TO ANY
RIGHT FOR THESE MOVEMENTS TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE CONFERENCE.
AT SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL MEETING OF DELEGATION HEADS, AFRICAN
SUPPORTERS OF INVITATION TO THESE MOVEMENTS SAID THEY
INTENDED SUBMIT WRITTEN PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF ART. 59
OF PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE TO PROVIDE EXPLICITLY FOR RIGHT
OF ATTENDANCE. THEY WERE VAGUE ABOUT VOTING RIGHTS,
BUT IMPLICATION SEEMED CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD SETTLE FOR OBSERVER
STATUS.

3. ON PRG, THE SITUATION IS GRIM. ONLY UK, GREECE,
PORTUGAL, AND BELGIUM WOULD JOIN US IN WEO MEETING IN
FIRM COMMITMENT TO NEGATIVE VOTE. APPARENTLY FIRM
ABSTENTIONS WERE FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS,
SWEDEN, AND TURKEY. ALL OTHERS WERE UNDECIDED. SOME
INDICATED VOTE WOULD DEPEND ON HOW OTHERS VOTED. SPAIN
SUGGESTED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION THAT, SINCE IT HAD
ABSTAINED IN UNGA ON GUINEA-BISSAU, IT WOULD PROBABLY
HAVE TO ABSTAIN ON PRG, APPARENTLY TO AVOID TREATING
US BETTER THAN PORTUGAL.

4. AT INFORMAL MEETING OF DELEGATION HEADS, OUT OF 18
SPEAKERS ONLY U.S., GVN, AND CANADA CLEARLY EXPRESSED
DETERMINATION TO VOTE NO IN PRG INVITATION. THOSE WHO
SUPPORTED PRG WERE ALL PREDICTABLE PRG BACKERS. PROBLEM
IS THAT GVN SUPPORTERS WERE UNWILLING TO TAKE THE FLOOR.
COMMENT: WE FACE SERIOUS RISK OF BANDWAGON PSYCHOLOGY
DEVELOPING UNLESS WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE WILLING OPPOSE
PRG INVITATION AND TO DO SO PUBLICLY. KEY TIME WILL BE
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND THURSDAY WHEN CONFERENCE WILL
DEBATE INVITATIONS.

5. ACCORDINGLY, URGE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS DEMARCHES AT
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FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL TO URGE OPPOSITION TO PRG INVITATION
AND CLEAR CONFERENCE STATEMENTS OF POSITION AT FOLLOWING
POSTS: BONN, COPENHAGEN, LONDON, HAGUE, ROME, MADRID, DUBLIN,
VIENNA, VALLETTA, AND ANKARA. DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, WAR, HUMAN RIGHTS, PARAMILITARY FORCES, GENEVA CONVENTIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, MEETING DELEGATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE032523
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: L/OA:MBWEST
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740225/aaaaaxxz.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 27026
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, XF, XA, ICRC, PRG
To: MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005